

## **Dr. John L. Seidel**

**Director, Center for Environment & Society  
Lammot DuPont Copeland Professor  
of Anthropology & Environmental Studies**

### **Biographical Sketch**

Dr. Seidel is the Director of the Center for Environment & Society Washington College, in Chestertown, Maryland, and holds an endowed professorship in Anthropology & Environmental Studies. He received his MA and PhD from the University of Pennsylvania, after attending Drew University as an undergraduate.

At Washington College, Prof. Seidel teaches courses in environmental studies, environmental archaeology, and historic preservation. His academic research includes archaeology in the Near East, investigations of the ancient Maya (Guatemala), marine research conducted for the U.S. National Park Service, and work throughout the Eastern U.S. Dr. Seidel has taught at Rutgers University and the University of Maryland College Park. He also worked for a number of years in consulting, conducting marine research from the Chesapeake to the Gulf of Mexico, for clients such as the U.S. Navy, the Army Corps of Engineers, and oil and gas companies. In addition to expertise in remote sensing technologies, Dr. Seidel specializes in geospatial analysis, using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to manage and analyze data ranging from natural and cultural resources to regional development patterns.

Dr. Seidel is a past president and board member of the Maritime Archaeological & Historical Society. He is widely published, actively lectures to public and professional groups, and has received awards for service and teaching. Prof. Seidel's teaching awards include a teaching fellowship from the Lilly Endowment, the Teaching Excellence Award from the University of Maryland College Park, and a Phi Kappa Phi Distinguished Faculty Mentor Award from the University of Maryland system. He is featured in *Diving Into History*, a video series on underwater archaeology, and most recently appeared in "Gold of the Republic," a National Geographic special for PBS.

Professor Seidel resides on Maryland's Eastern Shore in Chestertown, with his wife Elizabeth, who is also an archaeologist and Director of the Washington College Public

Archaeology Laboratory.